

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 COA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 EB-11 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 STR-08 CIEP-02

CEA-02 INT-08 CG-00 RSR-01 /142 W

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R 301458Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7575

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS UNN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EEC EGEN EFIS GL DA

SUBJ: FOREIGN ECONOMIC MINISTER'S VISIT TO GREENLAND

REF: COPENHAGEN 1692

BEGIN SUMMARY. VISIT TO GREENLAND BY FONECONMIN NORGAARD  
IS REPORTEDLY RESULTING IN HEATED DEBATE ABOUT LOCAL AUTONOMY,  
GREENLAND'S RELATIONS WITH EC, FISHERIES POLICIES AND LOCAL DESIRES  
TO EXTEND FISHERIES LIMITS TO 50 MILES. PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF  
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VISIT IS TO CONVINCE GREENLANDERS OF ADVANTAGES OF MEMBERSHIP.

SO FAR, THIS EFFORT DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE SUCCEEDING TOO WELL.  
NORGAARD AND PARTY RETURN SEPTEMBER 3. END SUMMARY

1. DANISH GOVERNMENT DELEGATION, HEADED BY FONECONMIN NORGAARD, IS CURRENTLY IN GREENLAND ON EIGHT-DAY VISIT WITH PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF "CHARMING" GREENLANDERS INTO MORE FAVORABLE VIEW OF EC MEMBERSHIP THAN THEY HAVE SO FAR DISPLAYED. IN OCTOBER 2, 1972 REFERENDUM, LARGE MAJORITY OF GREENLANDERS VOTED AGAINST EC MEMBERSHIP BUT, SINCE GREENLAND IS NOT AUTONOMOUS REGION AS FAEROES, GREENLAND BECAME MEMBER OF EC TOGETHER WITH REST OF DENMARK. (FAEROES HAVE UNTIL 1975 TO DECIDE.) GREENLANDERS HAVE TWO MAJOR CONCERNS: (A) THEY WANT AN EC FISHERIES POLICY MORE FAVORABLE TO LOCAL FISHERMEN INTERESTS THAN THAT NEGOTIATED BEFORE DANISH EC ENTRY, AND (B) THEY WANT A FIFTY-MILE FISHERIES ZONE.

2. FONOFF HAS TOLD US THAT NORGAARD'S MESSAGE TO THE GREENLANDERS WILL BE THAT (A) EC MEMBERSHIP HAS MANY ADVANTAGES, INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUNDS FOR GREENLAND; (B) THE DANISH GOVERNMENT IS FULLY AWARE OF THE PREEMINENT ROLE FISHERIES PLAY IN THE GREENLAND ECONOMY AND IS ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN A REVISION IN EC FISHERIES POLICY WHICH WILL BE MORE FAVORABLE TO GREENLAND INTERESTS (SEE REFTEL FOR SUMMARY OF DANISH PROPOSAL); (C) IT IS IMPOSSIBLE UNILATERALLY TO IMPOSE A FIFTY-MILE FISHERIES ZONE AGAINST EC FISHERMEN; AND (D) AN ENLARGED FISHERIES ZONE CAN BE IMPOSED AGAINST THIRD COUNTRIES, BUT THIS ISSUE MUST BE DISCUSSED IN THE LARGER CONTEXT OF THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE, BEARING IN MIND OVERALL DANISH INTERESTS WHICH MAY NOT MAKE ADVOCACY OF A FIFTY-MILE ZONE ADVISABLE.

3. MEDIA REPORTS SO FAR FROM GREENLAND INDICATE THE DEBATE IS BOTH PUBLIC AND HEATED. NORGAARD REPORTEDLY TOLD THE GREENLANDERS THAT THEY COULD WITHDRAW FROM EC IF THEY FOUND DISADVANTAGES OVERWEIGHED ADVANTAGES, BUT ONLY IF THEY OBTAINED LOCAL AUTONOMY. (NOTE: SOME GREENLANDERS HAVE BEEN PRESSING FOR AUTONOMY OR EVEN INDEPENDENCE.) THIS WOULD MEAN AN ENTIRELY NEW SITUATION AND NORGAARD CONCEIVED THE POSSIBILITY THAT, IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, THE DANISH GOVERNMENT WOULD AID GREENLAND'S WITHDRAWAL FROM THE EC.

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4. ON FISHERIES LIMITS, NORGAARD WAS REPORTEDLY VERY NEGATIVE ON ANY POSSIBILITY OF CONSIDERING A FIFTY-MILE LIMIT. PRESS, HOWEVER, REPORTED THAT THE GREENLAND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL HAD AGREED UNANIMOUSLY THAT LIMIT SHOULD BE EXPANDED FROM 12 TO 50 MILES.

5. EMBASSY COMMENT. A MORE BALANCED ACCOUNT THAN CURRENTLY AVAILABLE FROM MEDIA OF NORGAARD VISIT MUST AWAIT

HIS PARTY'S RETURN NEXT WEEK. FROM PRESENT EVIDENCE, IT APPEARS  
THAT NOT MANY GREENLANDERS ARE BEING CHARMED AND THAT AUTONOMY  
FOR GREENLAND AND NATURE OF ITS RELATIONS WITH EC WILL BECOME  
IMPORTANT ISSUES OVER NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, NO ONLY FOR DENMARK  
BUT ALSO EC AND NATO.  
DUNNIGAN

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